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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/578,826

11/20/2006

Guido Bold

ON/4-33484A

5256

75074

7590

01/15/2010

NOVARTIS INSTITUTES FOR BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH, INC.
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EXAMINER

SHAMEEM, GOLAM M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1626

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

01/15/2010

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/578,826	Applicant(s) BOLD ET AL.	
	Examiner Golam M. M. Shameem	Art Unit 1626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 November 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 6 and 8-10 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

This application is a 371 of PCT/EP04/12892 11/12/2004, and the claim of foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) to United Kingdom 0326601.2 11/14/2003 is acknowledged.

Status of Claims

Claims 1-10 are currently pending in the application.

Receipt is acknowledged of amendment / response filed on November 13, 2009 and that has been entered.

Response to Election/Restriction

In response to the restriction requirements, Applicants have elected Group I [which includes claims 1-5, and 7], **without** traverse, drawn to a compound of formula I, and the elected species as set forth and found in Example 5 (Response, page 1), is acknowledged.

Claims 6, and 8-10 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.142 (b) as being drawn to a non-elected subject matter. Therefore, the requirement for restriction is still deemed proper.

Applicants preserve their right to file a divisional on the non-elected subject matter.

As set forth in the restriction requirement and an election of a single compound (or set of compounds), the invention will encompass all compounds that fall within the scope of the search is as follows:

A compound of the formula I wherein:

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Q is S and X is C,

R₁ is substituted phenyl (wherein R₁ substitution is limited to pyrrolidinyl-lower alkoxy, piperidinyl-lower alkoxy, morpholinyl-lower alkoxy or lower alkyl-piperazinyl only) and R₂ is as claimed.

As a result of the election and the corresponding scope of the compound identified, claims 6, and 8-10 and the remaining subject matter of claims 1-5, and 7 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142 (b) as being drawn to non-elected inventions. The withdrawn subject matter of claims 6, and 8-10 is properly restricted as it differs materially in structure and in element from the elected subject matter supra so as to be patentably distinct there from.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections, set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-5, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takaya *et al* (1985). Applicant claims thiazole and pyrazole compounds, compositions and the methods of use thereof.

Determination of the scope and content of the prior art (MPEP §2141.01)

Takaya *et al* (1985) also teaches the synthesis of several substituted thiazole compounds, which are similar to those of instantly claimed invention.

Ascertainment of the difference between the prior art and the claims (MPEP §2141.02)

The difference between the claimed compound and that of the reference herein lies in the selection of a single substitution in “X” variable, such as H of instantly claimed compound [wherein Q is S and X is C, R₁ is unsubstituted phenyl and R₂ is unsubstituted heteroaryl] instead of Me (alkyl) group for the same position in the prior art [STN International, HCAPLUS database, RN number, 94284-34-1, a copy is provided with this Office action], which teaches the instantly claimed compound.

Finding of prima facie obviousness--rational and motivation (MPEP §2142-2413)

It would have been *prima facie* obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made since Takaya *et al* teach compounds which are generic to the instantly claimed compound. It is well established that the substitution of hydrogen for alkyl on a known compound is not a patentable modification absent unexpected or unobvious results. *In re Wood*, 199 U.S.P.Q. 137 (C.C.P.A. 1978) and *In re Lohr*, 137 U.S.P.Q. 548, 549 (C.C.P.A. 1963). Therefore, in the instant case, one skilled in the chemical art would be motivated to choose to replace an alkyl group with a hydrogen atom or *vice versa* in view of the known teaching of the art. Since the core compound of the formula is not novel and the novelty (if there is any) belongs to the selection of variable substitution, a great caution should be exercised to determine the patentability of the claimed invention. Therefore, in looking at the instant claimed compounds as a whole, the claimed compound would have been suggested to one skilled in the art unless unobvious or unexpected results can be shown.

Objections

Claims 1-5 and 7 are objected to for containing non-elected subject matter. The claims should be amended to exclude non-elected subject matter and within the scope of elected compound.

Telephone Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Golam Shameem, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (571) 272-0706. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 6:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph McKane, can be reached at (571) 272-0699. The Unofficial fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-7921. The Official fax phone number for this Group is (571) 273-8300.

When filing a FAX in Technology Center 1600, please indicate in the Header (upper right) "Official" for papers that are to be entered into the file, and "Unofficial" for draft documents and other communications with the PTO that are not for entry into the file of the application. This will expedite processing of your papers.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [joseph.mckane@uspto.gov]. All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees will not communicate with applicant via Internet e-mail where sensitive data will be exchanged or where there exists a possibility that sensitive data could be identified unless there is of record an express waiver of the confidentiality

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requirements under 35 U.S.C. 122 by the applicant. See the Interim Internet Usage Policy published by the Patent and Trademark Office Official Gazette on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist, whose telephone number is (571) 272-1600.

/Golam M. M. Shameem/

Primary Examiner

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Technology Center 1600

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